

**From:** sbesedick1@mac.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/23/01 10:39am  
**Subject:** a mistake

To Whom it May Concern,

How can the infusion of Microsoft based hardware, along with Microsoft software be considered a punishment. Talk about stifling competition . . .this judgment kills competition. Granted, the offer to help disadvantaged schools procure tech resources is well and good, but how can planting Microsoft based technologies in 12K+ more locations do anything but expand its already huge base. It is a well know fact, that many companies have been focusing on the education market because of its rich potential for growth. Well, with one fell swing of your gavel, you have turned over an ever larger section of the education market over to Microsoft. Wouldn't it have been more logical to have told Microsoft to foot the bill for whatever tech resources these disadvantaged schools wanted, rather than hand them market share on a platter? Such a recourse would have made the company have to compete for the privilege of doing business with our schools! Hasn't the issue been all along to level the playing field . . . I guess not! Microsoft has pulled out another victory here, and to add insult to injury, our government has made them appear to be the "great benevolent ones."

Stephen Besedick